

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A slide fastener comprising:

a pair of fastener tapes each having a fastener element for engagement, and
~~a slider for closing and opening the fastener tapes;~~

said fastener elements protruding from the respective tapes and engaging with
each other, thereby making it possible for the pair of fastener tapes to be joined one above the
other; and

a slider for closing and opening the fastener tapes, said slider having a guide
column and a top plate provided above the guide column and a bottom plate provided below the
guide column;

said guide column being provided generally perpendicular to the fastener tapes;

said top plate including a first end and a second end, said first end extending
downward and forming a left side part while said second end extends to an open space;

said bottom plate including a first end and a second end, said first end extending
upward and forming a right side part while said second end extends to an open space; and

wherein left and right fastener element housings are formed between the guide
column and the left and right side parts.

2. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 1 wherein the fastener elements are arranged longitudinally at locations other than the longitudinal edges of the fastener tapes.

3. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 1 wherein the fastener elements are coils.

4. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 1 wherein the fastener elements are rows of teeth.

5. (Currently Amended) A slide fastener for closing and opening fastener tapes comprising:
according to claim 1, wherein the slider has

a guide column constructed to perpendicularly engage fastener tapes; and

a top plate provided above said guide column and a bottom plate provided above
and below said guide column;

said top plate including a first and a second end, said first end one end of said top
plate extending downward [,.] and forming a left side part [,.] while the other and said second
end extending to an open space;

said bottom plate including a first end and a second end, said first end one end of
said bottom plate extending upward [,.] and forming a right side part [,.] while the other and
said second end extending to an open space; and

wherein left and right fastener [-] element housings are formed between the
guide column and the left and right side parts.

6. (Currently Amended) A slide fastener according to claim [[5]] 1, wherein a pull is
established provided on a side part of the slider body.

7. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 6, wherein the pull is provided with a
string.